

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY LISBON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EAID, EEC, PO

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, MAY 5, 1975: PORTUGAL

1. SUMMARY: THE EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN BRUSSELS GAVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO EC-PORTUGUESE RELATIONS. THEY HAVE ASKED THE EC COMMISSION TO CONSIDER WHAT CAN BE DONE IN SEVERAL SPECIFIED FIELDS. THE COUNCIL MAY RETURN TO THIS SUBJECT ON JUNE 24. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING THE RESTRICTED PORTION OF THEIR MEETING AND AT THEIR PRIVATE LUNCHEON, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE EC-NINE CONCENTRATED ON PORTUGAL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE TIME FOR GENERAL STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT HAS PASSED AND THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR A CLEAR INDICATION OF PORTUGAL'S DESIRES AND SPECIFIC POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM THE COMMUNITY. TO THE EMBARRASSMENT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT FITZGERALD, AND IN VIOLATION OF THE POLICY OF HOLDING RESTRICTED DISCUSSIONS CONFIDENTIAL, THE DANES REVEALED TO THE PRESS THE CONTENTS OF THE COUNCIL'S INSTRUCTION TO THE COMMISSION FOR A REPORT

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ON ACTIONS REGARDING PORTUGAL. THE COMMISSION

IS TO EXAMINE POSSIBLE MEANS OF ASSISTING PORTUGAL
ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

- A. FINANCIAL AID FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT,
PROBABLY VIA THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK.
- B. TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL HELP FOR EXISTING
SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED INDUSTRIES.
- C. AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE POSITION OF PORTUGUESE
WORKERS WITHIN THE EC.
- D. IMPROVEMENT IN THE "FREE-TRADE" ARRANGEMENT
BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND THE COMMUNITY.'

3. WHILE WE ARE UNCERTAIN WHAT IF ANY DEADLINE THE
MINISTERS ESTABLISHED FOR THE COMMISSION'S REPORT,
THE COUNCIL MAY DISCUSS THE SUBJECT AT ITS NEXT
MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG ON JUNE 24. MYERSON

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